be permitted to cut trees on their lands without Government interfereince.

Reply of Government.—This is not possible.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

SUBJECT No. 267.

Artesian Wells.

Mr. Chikkegowda, Maddagiri Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—In Pondicherry and Kumbakonum, the machinery for Artesian wells is available and such wells are profitably availed of there. It is prayed that Government may be pleased to take the initiative in sinking such wells in one or two places.

Reply of Government.—Not feasible.

SUBJECT No. 268.

The Bhadra project.

Messrs. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, B.A., LL.B., Advocate, Shimoga Municipality; C. Subba Rao, B.A., B L., Advocate, Nagar Sabha; Nadig Seenappa and Patel Basappa, Shimoga Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The Bhadra project may be taken up. The Districts of Shimoga and Chikmagalur have no great water-works. It is said that there is not much need for this as these are Malnad districts. But the area that will be irrigated by the proposed channels of the Bhadra project is the Maidan portion or the semi-malnad portion of these districts. When rainfall is generally scanty, the need for irrigation works is as pressing in these districts as they are in the Maidan districts.

Reply of Government.—The suggestion is a good one and will be considered favourably.

SUBJECT No. 269.

Levy of acreage contribution in place of compulsory labor by raiyats to tanks.

Messrs. Krishna Iyengar, Turuvekere Sub-Taluk, and Singrachar, Kunigal Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The raiyats are responsible for the annual earth-work to major and minor tanks and to channels. But the simultaneous attendance of all the raiyats at the required time cannot be expected. It is prayed therefore that instead of raiyats being compelled to do such works all at once, Government may undertake the execution of periodical repairs and the cost thereof proportionately assessed and recovered from raiyats along with revenue khist collections.

Reply of Government.—This is no doubt a good idea and is already under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 270.

Raiyats to be relieved of the liability to remove silt from tanks and channels and to do the necessary earth-work.

Mr. T. Narasimha Iyengar, Member, Kadur District Board.

Summary of discussion.—It is prayed that raiyats may not be asked to do the work of removing silt from tanks and channels.

Reply of Government.—*Vide* reply to Subject No. 269. The raiyats are never required to remove silt from tanks; they are only required to clear silt from feeder and distribution channels and do the necessary earth-work for the maintenance of tank and channel bunds.

SUBJECT No. 271.

Cessation of the demand for contribution by the raiyats.

Messrs. Srinivasa Rao and Rama Rao of Malur.

Summary of discussion.—The raiyats having been put to a great loss by the breach of the tanks on account of the heavy floods, it was represented last year that the demand for contribution should not be made and this was accordingly promised. It is prayed that the demands which are now being made may be stopped.